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Then the fable was probably one the point of which is the shameless breaking of a promise. It must have been well known, to be referred to as it is by the poet, therefore it is not likely to have been lost. Is there a known mediæval fable which fits this situation, and in which the names of the animals are not too far away from the manuscript readings in this passage? A further requirement may even be that one of the animals is the *mouton*. There is such a fable; it is that of the Wolf and the Ram, found in different versions in Marie de France (No. 50, in Warnke's edition) and elsewhere. The wolf has taken a vow to fast. He meets the ram, and evades his vow by calling the ram a salmon and eating him as such.—*Ten minutes.*]

This paper was discussed at some length by Dr. G. C. Keidel and Professor F. M. Warren.

16. "*Holme Riddles* of Harleian ms. 1960 (Brit. Mus.)" By Professor Frederick Tupper, Jr., of the University of Vermont. [See *Publications*, XVIII, 2.]

[I. Manuscript: (1) Text, (2) Date and Scribe, (3) The Four Randle Holmes of Chester. II. Matter and style. III. The Riddles. IV. History: (1) Relation to English Riddle Collections, (2) Native and Continental Analogies, (3) Place in Riddle Literature.—*A ten-minute summary.*]

17. "The Gender of English Loan-Nouns in Norse Dialects in America: a Contribution to the Study of the Development of Grammatical Gender." By Professor George T. Flom, of the State University of Iowa. This paper was presented under the auspices of the American Dialect Society. In the absence of the author, it was read by Professor O. F. Emerson. [Printed in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, v, 1.]

[A consideration of the three theories of the nature and origin of grammatical gender, according to Humboldt-Grimm, Brugmann-Michels, and Wheeler-Paul. A discussion of the influences that have determined the gender of English loan-nouns in Norse. Under the general head of (group) associations, the subject will be taken up under the subdivisions of formal and functional groups. As far as the results obtained from the study of a particular dialect—Norse—can be applied to the question of the origin of gender, it will be in support of Wheeler's theory.—*Twenty minutes.*]

The Association met at 8 p. m., in McCoy Hall, to hear an

address by Professor James W. Bright, President of the Association, "Concerning the Unwritten History of this Association." [See p. xli.]

After the address, the members of the Association were received by Mr. Theodore Marburg and by Mrs. Gaston Manly.

FOURTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31.

The session began at 10.10 a. m.

18. "Cynewulf and Alcuin." By Mr. Carleton F. Brown, of Harvard University. [See *Publications*, xviii, 2.]

[A re-examination of the evidence for the dependence of Cynewulf in his Judgment Day description in the *Elene* (vv. 1277-1320) upon a similar description in Alcuin's *De Fide Sanctæ et Individuæ Trinitatis* (Lib. iii, Cap. 21).—A twenty-minute abstract.]

This paper was discussed by Dr. J. M. Garnett and Professor J. W. Bright.

The Auditing Committee reported that the Treasurer's report was found correct, and recommended its acceptance. The recommendation was adopted.

The Committee on Place of Meeting recommended the acceptance of the invitation of the University of Michigan to meet a year hence in Ann Arbor.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,

ANN ARBOR, December 23, 1902.

In behalf of the authorities of this University, I beg to invite the Modern Language Association to hold their meeting a year hence at this place. We shall be most happy to furnish all facilities for the Society, and to give you a most cordial greeting.

JAMES B. ANGELL, *President*.

The recommendation was adopted, and it was voted "that